

Andy Beshear
Governor

Rebecca W. Goodman
Secretary
Energy and Environment Cabinet



Michael J. Schmitt
Chairman

Commonwealth of Kentucky
**Kentucky State Board on
Electric Generation and
Transmission Siting**
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615
Telephone: (502) 564-3940

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Karen Wilson
502-782-7136 or 502-564-3940
KarenL.Wilson@ky.gov

Siting Board Approves 188-Megawatt Solar Project in Fleming County

FRANKFORT Ky (May 24, 2021)—The Kentucky Electric Generation and Transmission Siting Board has approved, with modifications and conditions, an application from AEUG Fleming Solar, LLC (AEUG Fleming), to construct a 188-megawatt (MW) solar facility on a 1,857-acre site in Flemingsburg, Fleming County, Kentucky.

AEUG Fleming is a limited liability company, incorporated in Delaware with a principal place of business in Chicago, Illinois. The project will sell power into the regional wholesale electricity market operated by PJM Interconnection LLC, via an existing East Kentucky Power Cooperative, Inc. transmission line that crosses the property.

The Siting Board, created in 2002 by the Kentucky General Assembly, reviews applications for the construction of electric generating facilities of 10MW or greater proposed by merchant generators. Merchant generators sell the electricity they produce in the wholesale market at rates not regulated by the PSC.

AEUG Fleming submitted its application, including the required Site Assessment Report, on November 25, 2020. As required by statute, AEUG Fleming conducted public outreach prior to filing its application and published notice of the proposed facility in the local newspaper. AEUG Fleming also notified landowners whose property borders the proposed facility. There were no intervention requests or requests for a public meeting or local public hearing. A formal evidentiary hearing was conducted on April 1, 2021.

As authorized by statute, the Siting Board retained a consultant to review AEUG's Site Assessment Report and proposed mitigation. The Site Assessment Report, per statute, must contain a detailed site description of the proposed facility, as well as potential impacts to surrounding property both during construction and operation post-construction. In addition to evaluation of the factors contained in the Site Assessment Report, KRS 278.710(1) directs the Siting Board to consider the following criteria in making a decision:

- Economic impact on the affected region and state;
- Existence of other generation facilities;
- Local planning and zoning requirements;
- Potential impact on the electricity transmission system;
- Compliance with statutory setback requirements; and
- History of environmental compliance.

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The consultant's report determined that the project will provide modest economic benefits to the region and the state during operation, with some temporary, positive impacts during construction, namely as a result of local hiring. The consultant's report also concludes that the existence of solar facilities does not, in general, have a negative impact on property values for adjacent landowners in rural areas.

AEUG Fleming filed for a deviation from the 2,000-foot setback requirement for facilities proposed near residential neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, or nursing facilities, which based upon the evidence provided and in light of the mitigation measures imposed in today's Order, the Siting Board has granted.

Among other items in today's Order, the Siting Board accepted the consultant's recommendation that AEUG Fleming develop a decommissioning plan that ensures the land is returned to its original use (mainly agricultural/pasture) at the end of the facility's operations.

The Siting Board conditions its approval upon the full implementation of mitigation measures and conditions, including:

- Submission of a final site layout plan, with any changes from the proposed plan clearly delineated;
- Controlled access and security measures, along with proper signage, at the site during construction and operation;
- Retention, to the extent possible, of existing vegetation between the solar arrays and residences;
- Creation of a buffer between the solar facility's boundaries and any residences and other occupied structures that are within 300 feet and having an unobstructed line of sight of the solar facility;
- Cultivation of a native pollinator-friendly habitat within the facility;
- Ability for AEUG Fleming to fulfill pledge to utilize anti-glare panels and operate panels to eliminate the potential for any glare from the panels. AEUG Fleming is to provide such proof of its ability to reduce glare in order to maintain operations. The company is to submit the outcome of a glare study on June 15, 2021, and the final decision in today's Order is conditioned upon the Siting Board's review and approval of the study.
- Mitigation of transportation impacts to ensure safety and to prevent damage to state-designated bridges;
- Establishment of a regular construction schedule, with hours between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday;
- Coordination with nearby residents and others to confirm that noise levels are within acceptable ranges during construction, with proper mitigation as necessary; and
- Implementation of measures to reduce noise once the facility is operational, with such measures including placement of inverters and other equipment.

The Siting Board consists of the three members of the PSC, the secretary of Kentucky Energy and Environmental Cabinet (EEC) or a designee, the secretary of the Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet (CED) or a designee and two local members appointed by the governor to serve for a specific case. The chairman of the PSC serves as chairman of the Siting Board. The local members in this case are Fleming County Judge Executive Larry H. Foxworthy, and John C. Price.

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The Siting Board is headquartered at the PSC and PSC staff also serves as staff to the Siting Board. The Siting Board's operations are funded through fees paid by applicants.

For a complete description of the review process, mitigation measures and conditions, public comments, and other case filings, please visit the Siting Board at <https://psc.ky.gov/Home/EGTSB>. The Case No. is 2020-00206.

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